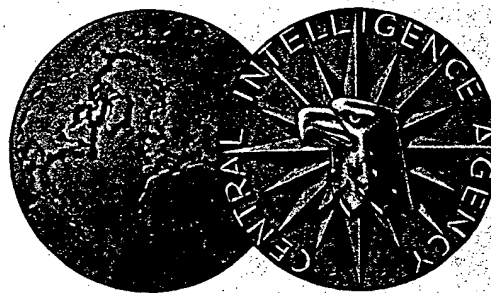


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WEEKLY SUMMARY



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FRANCE

Soviet Pressure The Soviet Union continues to exploit French defeatism and fears of a resurgent Germany. Apparently convinced that France is the weakest link in western European defensive planning, the USSR has: (1) chosen France as the place to concentrate Communist attacks upon the European recovery program; (2) stepped up its propaganda campaign against western plans for Germany and the Ruhr; (3) implied that the Spanish Pyrenees, rather than the Rhine, would be the US "frontier" in Europe; and (4) indirectly proposed, on a governmental level, that France renounce the western bloc in order to insure world peace and French security. At a time when France's internal problems portend the fall of the Queuille Government and the rise of De Gaulle, the Kremlin can be expected to continue its cynical exploitation of French fears and prejudices which has already caused many Frenchmen of varying political convictions to consider critically the implications of France's alignment with the west.

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E A S T E R N E U R O P E

Communist Labor Soviet determination to throw the full, world-wide resources of Communist labor against the European recovery program is manifested by Soviet support of the striking French coal miners. The Communist-controlled Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) has called for "tangible demonstrations" in support of the French miners. Simultaneously, the Soviet, Polish, Czechoslovak, Yugoslav, and Rumanian labor movements have contributed 90,000,000 francs (about \$288,000). This unprecedented public aid, which actually is insignificant in comparison to the total clandestine Soviet support of the French strike, clearly demonstrates the all-inclusiveness of the Soviet effort to sabotage the European recovery program. The WFTU appeal, directed primarily to western labor, may draw minor contributions from left-wing labor groups in Italy, the UK, and the US. However, the appeal will be flatly rejected by British and US national labor organizations which support the European recovery program and will hasten their formal withdrawal from WFTU.

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